

# Documents on Diplomacy: Resources

## Key Players: Section V, Civil War and Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**Charles Francis Adams:** Son and grandson of two presidents, Charles Francis Adams served as U.S. Minister to England from 1861 to 1868. He is considered to have been one of the most skilled American diplomats in history and is widely considered to be instrumental in preventing the British from recognizing the Confederacy during the Civil War.

**Charles Francis Adams, Jr.:** Son of diplomat Charles Francis Adams, he served in a Massachusetts cavalry regiment during the Civil War and fought at the Battles of Gettysburg and Antietam. At the end of the war, he commanded a regiment of African-American cavalry.

**John Quincy Adams:** Son of President John Adams, John Quincy Adams was a diplomat (U.S. Minister to the Netherlands and to Russia), Senator and Representative, Secretary of State and President. He was the father of Charles Francis Adams.

**Tsar Alexander II:** Supreme ruler of Russia; Alexander II was the head of state when the United States purchased Russian Alaska.

**Anson Burlingame:** Appointed by Abraham Lincoln as U.S. Minister to the Qing Empire in China, Burlingame won the trust of the Chinese and served as chief representative of the Chinese to the United States on a mission in 1867 and the major European nations. He used his political contacts to win acceptance for a treaty favorable to the Chinese, the Burlingame Treaty. He died suddenly in St. Petersburg while on this mission.

**Cassius M. Clay:** Clay served as U.S. Minister to Russia under Abraham Lincoln. He was a strong supporter of the purchase of Alaska and served in Russia until 1869.

**G. M. (George Mifflin) Dallas:** U.S. Minister to Great Britain from 1856 to 1861. He had previously served as U.S. Minister to Russia.

**Benito Juarez:** Mexican lawyer and politician who served five terms as president of Mexico. He

resisted the French occupation of Mexico and was instrumental in the restoration of the Republic.

**Andrew Johnson:** Abraham Lincoln's vice president, Johnson became president after Lincoln's assassination. He was president at the time of the Louisiana Purchase.

**Richard Bickerton Pernell Lyons, 1st Viscount Lyons:** British minister to the United States during the Civil War. He served from 1858 to 1864.

**Maximilian I:** An Austrian prince who was proclaimed Emperor of Mexico in 1864, with the backing of the French Government and Emperor Napoleon III. He was captured and executed in 1867.

**Napoleon III:** Nephew of Napoleon I, Napoleon III became emperor of the Second French Empire in 1852, a position he held until 1870. He wanted to create a French sphere of influence in the Americas and backed the restoration of the Mexican monarchy under Maximilian I.

**Thomas Nast:** An influential German-born American political cartoonist for *Harper's Weekly* magazine. He later served six months as U.S. Consul General in Ecuador where he died of yellow fever.

**Lord John Russell:** A British aristocrat who served as Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs from 1859 to 1865. He twice served as Prime Minister.

**William Seward:** Secretary of State during the administrations of Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. Seward also served as Governor of New York and in the U.S. Senate.

**Eduard de Stoeckl:** The Russian diplomat best known for negotiating the Alaska Purchase with Secretary of State William Seward.

**Charles Sumner:** A powerful American Senator, Sumner was influential in foreign affairs. Sumner's support of the Alaska Purchase was seen as key to the passage of the treaty in the Senate.